House/Trading House/Star Trading House/ Super Star Trading House, triple weightage is given on FOB or net foreign exchange on the export of product manufactured and exported by units in the Small Scale Industries (SSI)/Tiny Sector/ Cottage Sector and double weightage on FOB or net foreign exchange to merchant exporter exporting products reserved for SSI units and manufactured by units in the Small Scale Industry (SSI)/ Tiny Sector/Cottage Sector. For promoting exports of SSI products, 2% additional Special Import License is also given to Export House, Trading House, Star Trading House and Super Star Trading House.

(c) and (d) As per information compiled by the Export Promotion Councils and Commodity Boards, export figures in respect of small scale sector for the year 1998-99 have been estimated at Rs. 48979.23 crores. Exports from small scale during the year 1997-98 were estimated at Rs. 44442.18 crores. Accordingly, exports during 1998-99 have shown an increase of 10.20% over the year 1997-98. The Figures for the year 1999-2000 are not available yet.

New Industrial Development Plan

1061. SHRI DRUPAD BORGOHAIN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any new plan for industrial development o f the country;

(b) if so, what are the basic features of such plan;

(c) whether Government propose to establish new Industries in comi.ng years; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (DR. RAMAN): (a) and (b) The industrial development of the country is governed by the New Industrial Policy announced in July, 1991. The major objective of the New Industrial Policy is to build on the gains already made, maintain a sustained growth in productivity and gainful employment and attain international competitiveness. In pursuit of these objectives, Government have taken a series of initiatives in respect of the policies relating to industrial licensing, foreign investment, foreign technology argreement, public sector policy etc.

Review of the industrial policy, procedures and their implementation is an ongoing process. The focus of the review is always on development and promotion of industries rather than on regulations.

(c) and (d) There is no proposal with the Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion in the Ministry of Commerce and Industry to establish new industries.

Decline in Export Growth Rate

1062. SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that export growth rate has slowed down sharply over the last three years and from a high of 18.4 per cent in 1995-96, it has shrunk to -5.1 per cent in the first half of 1998-99; and

(b) if so, what action Government have taken to boost exports?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) As per the Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics data the export growth in US $ terms in 1995-96 was registered at 20.8% over the same period last year. This growth is estimated at 3.7% in 1998-99 over the corresponding provisional estimates of the previous year. The exports have shown remarkable recovery and has been provisionally estimated at 11.32% in US $ terms during April-January, 2000 over the same period last year.

(b) A number of steps have been taken to further enhance the export growth which include reduction in transaction cost through decentralisation, simplification of procedures and various other measures as enumerated in the Exim Policy. Steps have also been taken to promote exports through multilateral and bilateral initiatives, identification of thrust sectors and focus regions.

Structural Reforms

1063. MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the major policy decisions taken by Government since the inception of the structural reforms;

(b) what are the objectives of these policy decisions; and